WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARIES

JANUARY

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Volume II Number 1

WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARIES

Volume 2
Number 1

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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

PLANS AND POLICIES OF FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

J. Frank Marsh, State President

DEEDS BEFORE WORDS

As a young school teacher, I was wisely advised to make few promises, but rather to go about quietly to get something worthwhile done, leaving talk to follow deeds. In that spirit, I submit a few statements, leaving the main discussion to veterans who have really done something in the field of library service.

TREES BREATHE THROUGH LEAVES

Scientists tell us that trees breathe through the leaves exposed to the air and the sunshine out at the end of branches and limbs. So it is with organizations. The life-giving breath must come through individuals who live in close contact with the life and spirit of the real people to be served.

Friends of the Library should be everywhere in the state ready to give strength to the work of the main offices and libraries. To change the comparison, groups of Friends of the Library may make up what the Communists call "cells" from which larger bodies and movements may grow. To change the figure once more, we Friends of the Library may serve as foot soldiers under the leadership of the Library Commission.

TO WORK FOR UNITY

Many related organizations under many names are naturally and properly interested in spreading library service. This may become confusing to citizens and law makers interested in the library movement. Friends of the Library have no separate part to play. We wish to be only enthusiastic, practical friends in the movement for more and better libraries so administered as to serve more of our people more efficiently.

While Friends of the Library will always feel free to make suggestions and recommendations about the improvement of library service, we will naturally follow the lead of the trained experts who devote all their time and talent to this humane but technical work.

APPEAL TO SPECIAL GROUPS

Many well-organized groups have a real interest in better reading material for more of our people. In my present position as governor of the Rotary clubs of our state, I know the active interest of these 55 clubs in libraries. In my January Monthly Letter, I expect to bring to the attention of all these clubs the great opportunity for service through being Friends of the Library. The same holds true for Kiwanis, Lions, Quota and many other civic organizations. Many churches, too, are ready to help. Membership on a church education board makes me realize the potential strength here for improving library service in our state.

REACH ALL THROUGH SCHOOLS

Our school system is the only organization required by law to serve the minds of all the children of the state. In many isolated communities,

(see DEEDS BEFORE WORDS on page 2)

DEEDS BEFORE WORDS

(continued from page 1)

for many years to come, the schools will be the only agency to put good books into the hands of thousands of mentally hungry children. Friends of the Library will certainly cooperate vigorously with the school officials and teachers who are the friends closest to all the children.

EXAMPLES-CONDITIONS, WRONG AND RIGHT

Recently, I heard two reports from teachers in widely separated places in our state. These reports, summarized briefly below, show "conditions without library service," and "Conditions with library service."

One teacher had made a community survey. The house-to-house study showed that the homes of the neighborhood had only about a dozen readable books for young people. The school could afford only the minimum of text-books. The teacher related that many of the children went to a near-by town trash pile and pulled out old dirty funny books and torn cheap magazines to read. This is a damaging scene for our great proud Mountain State. Friends of the Library should help see "that it can't happen here" much longer.

The other teacher reporting was serving in a one-room school in a county having a standard library organization. She related with evident satisfaction how she distributed allotments of highly suitable books from the branch library backed up by the county library. She reported that the pupils and parents were appreciative readers, and, that the general tone of the neighborhood was being improved by much reading of well-selected books.

COOPERATE WITH PUBLIC LEADERS

Our libraries are in desperate need of increased budgets - state, county and municipal. Better public budgets can be secured only through political leaders. Such leaders are more approachable and liberal-minded than many idealistic people think. We should approach candidates and party leaders to secure planks in platforms favoring the further enlightenment of our people through the generous support of libraries.

Budgets are generally worked out and, as a rule, finally determined before well-meaning lobbyists begin to work for increases. Friends of the Library should cooperate with the leaders in the field of library services in reaching the key budget makers before the figures are frozen.

It is our hope that Friends of the Library will prove a potent force in helping lift our beloved state to a higher level in library service.

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NEW BOOKMOBILE IN SERVICE

The West Virginia Library Commission's first demonstration bookmobile went into service December 2, 1947, as a part of the Monroe County Library Demonstration which is being conducted as a joint project by the Commission, and the Monroe County Court and Board of Education.

More than two-thirds of the cost of the bookmobile was contributed as gifts from state civic groups and individuals interested in the Commission program.

Mrs. Oliver Shurtleff, Chairman of the Commission reports that two other counties have requested demonstrations since the Monroe project began in September; and that all counties wishing demonstrations should address their requests to the West Virginia Library Commission, Morgantown, West Virginia, or to a member of the Commission.

WVLA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETS

A meeting of the Executive Board of the West Virginia Library Association was held on December 12 and 13 at Morgantown. Present were: Mrs. Madalyn Bradford, President, Mrs. Vivian Boughter, Treasurer, Mr. Forrest Carhart, President-Elect, and Mr. Charles Butler, Secretary. Sitting in on the session here were Miss Dora Parks, Executive Secretary, West Virginia Library Commission, and Mr. Elmer Grieder, Librarian, West Virginia University.

First on the agenda was the matter of plans for West Virginia Libraries during the coming year. Plans were drawn up for the four issues to appear in January, April, July, and the time of the annual meeting.

A number of appointments were made. Mr. Charles R. Knapp, Librarian, West Virginia Wesleyan College, was appointed Federal Co-ordinator for the State Library Association for the coming year, and appointments to the Editorial Board of West Virginia Libraries were decided upon. Tentative plans for publicity in connection with the next meeting of the State Legislature were discussed, as well as means by which the membership of the State Library Association could be increased.

The Annual Meeting for 1948 was discussed, and it was decided that Huntington would be the most suitable location. The exact dates of the meeting were not determined, but it was decided that a two day rather than a one-day meeting would be desirable.

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OPENING FOR BOOKMOBILE LIBRARIAN

The Huntington Public Library has an opening for a bookmobile librarian. Applicants must be graduates of approved library schools. Basic salary for this position is $2400.00-3000.00 depending upon experience.

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PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

The Constitutional Revision Committee suggested several changes in the bylaws which have been reported elsewhere. One idea was suggested too late to be voted upon at the annual meeting. It has been proposed that the Executive Board consist of not only the officers of the Association but also the chairman of the various sections. In addition, it seems very wise to add to the Executive Board the Editor of West Virginia Libraries and the Executive Secretary of the Library Commission. The Editor should of course, be a member of the Executive Board since the Executive Board determines the policies of West Virginia Libraries. The Executive Secretary of the Commission should be a member of the Board since the Commission and the Association work hand in hand, assisting each other continuously.

The Executive Board also has suggested that each year an audit committee be appointed to go over the treasurer's records just before the annual meeting and that the report would be an auditor's report instead of a treasurer's report. The records of the treasurer would then be ready to turn over to the new treasurer at the annual meeting, thus avoiding the necessity of transferring the accounts and records through the mail.

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Three libraries in the state are planning for new bookmobiles. Both Wheeling and Charleston are buying new ones for replacements and Huntington is to have one for the first time. The Huntington bookmobile scheduled for delivery last September has been delayed in manufacturing but delivery is now set for late in January and should be placed in operation sometime early in the spring.

In addition to these three, the Commission began a demonstration bookmobile in Monroe County in December.

West Virginia Libraries is the official organ of the West Virginia Library Association. It is published in January, April, July and October. Contributions and other communications should be addressed to the Editor.

West Virginia Libraries is sent to every member of the Association. Separate subscriptions are available at $1.00 per year.

Vol. 2, No. 1 ..... January 1948

Editor ..... Betty Meek
Ohio County Public Library,
Wheeling, West Virginia

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EDITORIAL

THE HE-MAN COMPLEX IN WEST VIRGINIA

Kyle McCormick, Publisher
The Princeton Observor

SINCE becoming a member of the West Virginia Library Commission, I have been brought more and more in contact with what one may call the he-man complex that abounds in West Virginia. There were four women members of the Commission at the time I became a member. Since then one more male, Mr. Earl E. Rich, mining engineer of Vivian, West Virginia has been added.

At times, following meetings of our organization, I have been the victim of sly cracks about how I and my lady friends were enjoying our association. I find that most males in our state seem to regard interest in libraries and library work as belonging distinctly in the domain of femininity - something to be avoided by a he-man of great self respect.

Also in social activities, I find this to be true, and I am urged to abandon my bridge playing habits and enjoy a man's game of poker down at the club.

In my early youth, I had the advantage of a small library, and it was worth much in learning American history--the Indian fights and the pioneer life of the early days. Daniel Boone, George Rogers Clark, Simon Kenton and even the renegade Simon Girty became familiar figures to me as I read Roosevelt's Winning of the West and similar stories.

As a hangover from this, I am today much interested in ridge-running over the hills and mountains of West Virginia and often invite my poker playing friends along. But I find that they have long since lost the art of walking and do not get far from their autos.

A point I make is that West Virginia is at the bottom of the list in library service among the states of the union, and that the he-man complex has something to do with it. The conception abounds too much that a library exists for the purpose of affording idle women silly love stories or mystery yarns through which they escape complete boredom.

The conception of a library as a center of information for technical and other research and/or obtaining facts in any field of knowledge, does not seem to be prevalent.

(see THE HE-MAN COMPLEX on page 5)

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Vol. 2, No. 1 ..... January 1949

Editor ..... Betty Hoch
Cole County Public Library,
Charleston, West Virginia

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EDITORIAL

THE BEGINNING CENTURY IN WEST VIRGINIA

Kyle Bernstadt, Publicity
The Dominion Observer

SINCE becoming a member of the West Virginia Library Commission, I have been brought to see anew in many ways what can only well the common member that attends in West Virginia. There were four women members of the Commission at the time I became a member. [illegible]

[illegible] Following me along in our organization, I have been the victim of my crusade about the I am by fairly female were originally [illegible]. I think that [illegible] to our place even to women interested in libraries and library work as [illegible] distinctly in the density of femininity - something to be avoided by a number of great and varied.

Also in social activities, I like to be [illegible], and it is [illegible] by bridge playing habits [illegible] a [illegible] of power as [illegible] club.

In my early years, I had the advantage of a small library, and it was work in learning Indians [illegible]--the Indian fighter and the pioneer life of the early days. [illegible] Cooper, George Moore [illegible] Porter and even the [illegible] Civil War Southern Military figures [illegible] and I read Roosevelt's [illegible] and adventure stories.

As a Sophomore from [illegible], I was also most interested in [illegible] over the hills and mountains of West Virginia and often hunted by Pioneer hunting [illegible]. But I [illegible] they have been [illegible] and of walking, and [illegible] from their [illegible].

A point I make is that [illegible] place in the history of the life [illegible] service among the [illegible] the women, and that the [illegible] had something to do with it. The conception obtained too from [illegible] library [illegible] for the purpose of [illegible] forming idle women [illegible] or twenty years through [illegible] energy [illegible].

The conception of a library as a [illegible] of information for [illegible] and other research [illegible] trade in any field of knowledge, [illegible] to be [illegible].

(Con. on Page Seven)

THE HE-MAN COMPLEX
(continued from page 4)

It is also true that the coal fields of southern West Virginia are farther behind in library service than the rest of the state. We note that the welfare fund created by a production tax on coal for the benefit of the miners of the nation, aamounts to about forty millions of dollars. It is a pity that some of this cannot be used for better library facilities in the coal fields.

But I suspect that one might again run into that he-man complex if this were ever seriously considered.

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OUR GUEST EDITORS

The Guest Editorial in this issue of West Virginia Libraries, the first of a series planned by the Editorial Board to be done by prominent newspaper editors in the state, was done by Mr. Kyle McCormick, Editor of the Princeton Observer and member of the West Virginia Library Commission. The editorial for the April issue will be done by Mr. H. R. Pinckard, Editor of the Herald Advertiser of Huntington, president of the Library Board of the Huntington Public Library and president of the Cabell County group of Friends of the Library, the largest group in the state.

Mr. Raymond Brewster, President of the State Board of Education and Editor of the Herald Dispatch of Huntington will write the editorial for the July issue.

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The 1947 statistics sheets for West Virginia Public Libraries are finally finished. Our per capita expenditure for Public Libraries in West Virginia last year was eleven cents (one cent more than the year before). -- W. Va. Library Commission

PIONEERING FOR LIBRARIES: MRS. OTIS G. WILSON

A little more than twenty years ago a New York foundation wanted to give a large sum of money to the States of West Virginia and Tennessee to set up demonstration library service. West Virginia failed to qualify for the simple reason that there was no state library agency to make plans and to administer the funds. This was a bitter pill to swallow so various women across the state started a movement to secure a State Library Commission. In 1925 due entirely to the efforts of these women the Legislature passed a bill providing for a Library Commission but did not provide any money for the operation of the Commission. Various governors, however, refused to appoint a Commission, but the women kept on working and finally in 1935 Governor Kump appointed the first Commission which was still without funds with which to operate. The Legislature in 1938, however, set up a budget of $5000 which the State Board of Control immediately froze. Again the women went to work and in 1942 money was released and the Commission went to work.

Behind all this work were numerous hard-working women who refused to give up but kept on trying, but there is one, a very persistent person, who literally camped on the politicians' door steps and who went to Charleston time after time, who never gave up no matter how deep her disappointment might be, and who always said when a particular project failed to come through, "Well, we didn't get what we wanted this time, but we'll try again." It is to her, Mrs. Otis G. Wilson, and to the hundreds of women like her that we owe the fact that today West Virginia is third from the bottom in libraries instead of on the bottom, as was the case just ten years ago. May we have many more like her.

WVU ACQUIRES CIVIL WAR COLLECTION

The West Virginia University Library in December purchased a collection of books on the Civil War gathered by Dr. W. E. Brooks, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Morgantown.

There are over 600 volumes in the collection, of which over 400 were not previously in the library. They include biographies, reminiscences, campaign documents, standard histories, and other works dealing with the Civil War period. Lincoln, Grant, and Lee are especially well represented. Dr. Brooks is the author of Grant at Appomattox, Lee of Virginia, and other works.

With the Civil War material came 34 American and English first editions. Hawthorne, Longfellow, Whittier, Bret Harte, Bryant, John Hay, Swinburne, and others are represented in fine copies, in some cases of several works.

At the same time Dr. Brooks presented to the University a lion in bronze by Carl Akeley, the sculptor and explorer. This figure is one of five studies made by Akeley for a Theodore Roosevelt memorial.

****

The A.L.A. Conference will be held at Atlantic City, New Jersey, June 13-19, 1948. Because of the fact that very few librarians from West Virginia were able to make the trip to San Francisco last year, it is anticipated that a large number will be on hand at Atlantic City. The A.L.A. advises that single rooms are very limited in number, but there are plenty of double rooms. Reservations should be made as soon as possible with the Housing Bureau, 16 Central Pier, Atlantic City, New Jersey.

THE WEST VIRGINIA NEWSPAPER CHECKLIST

The West Virginia University Library has begun the compilation of a checklist of newspapers published in West Virginia from the earliest times. The project is primarily intended to facilitate the microfilming of newspaper files which has been started at the library. Numerous gaps are revealed in the preliminary collating, ranging from single pages which have been lost or irretrievably damaged to runs of several years. It is important that these be located so that the microfilm copies will be complete.

The preliminary checking list of newspapers is being compiled from Gregory's American Newspapers, 1821-1936, commonly known as the Union List of Newspapers, and Brigham's History and Bibliography of American Newspapers, 1690-1820, vol. II. The resulting list will be checked against various other compilations, local histories, and similar sources of information for new titles, verification of dates, and other additions or emendations.

Since the list is designed to be a handbook for the location of newspaper files it will not include publishing histories or such bibliographical data as Brigham has given in his monumental work. Originally it was expected that only West Virginia libraries and certain individuals and institutions would be asked to detail their holdings on the preliminary checking list. It is apparent, however, that many titles are to be found only in libraries outside the state; it will probably be necessary to ask certain of these to cooperate in the project. Work is slowly proceeding on the first compilation of titles. The cooperation of the libraries and other institutions who will eventually be asked to list their holdings is essential to the completion of this valuable research project.

WVU ACTIVE ON CIVIL WAR COMMITTEE

The West Virginia University library in Morgantown purchased a collection of books on the civil war recently owned by Dr. T. E. Drake, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Morgantown.

There are over 600 volumes in the collection, of which over 400 were not previously in the library. They include biographies, memoirs, campaign documents, statehood histories, and other works dealing with the civil war period. Lincoln, Grant, and Lee are especially well represented. Dr. Brooks is the author of Stand at Appomattox, Lee of Virginia, and other works.

With the civil war material were at American and English first editions, Pamphlets, Longfellow, Whittier, Bret Harte, Irwin, John Gray Spinning, and others are represented in this collection, in some cases of several works.

At the same time Dr. Brooks presented to the University a bust in bronze by Paul Akeley, the sculptor and explorer. This figure is one of five studies made by Akeley for a Theodore Roosevelt memorial.

****

The A.L.A. conference will be held at Atlantic City, New Jersey, June 16-19, 1947, because of the fact that very few librarians from West Virginia were able to make the trip to San Francisco last year. It is anticipated that a large number will be on hand at Atlantic City. The A.L.A. advises that single rooms are very limited in number, but there are plenty of double rooms. Reservations should be made as soon as possible with the Housing Bureau, 16 Central Pier, Atlantic City, New Jersey.

WEST VIRGINIA LITERATURE CHECKLIST

The West Virginia University library has begun the compilation of a checklist of newspapers published in West Virginia from the earliest times. The project is primarily intended to facilitate the microfilming of newspaper files which have been stored in the library. Numerous gaps are revealed in the preliminary compilation, ranging from single pages which have been lost or irretrievably damaged to runs of several years. It is important that these be located so that the microfilm copies will be complete.

The preliminary checklist of newspapers is being compiled from Dorcas's American Newspapers, 1690-1820, commonly known as the Union List of Newspapers, and Rodgers's History and Bibliography of American Newspapers, 1690-1820, vol. 1. The resulting list will be checked against various other compilations, local histories, and similar sources of information for new titles, verifications of dates, and other additions or emendations.

Since the list is intended to be a handbook for the librarian of newspaper files it will not include publication, bibliography or such utilitarian-political data as publication law, from the commercial viewpoint, originality of the compiler that only York Pennsylvania and certain individuals and institutions would be asked to detail their holdings on the printed newspaper checklist. It is apparent, however, that many titles are to be found only in libraries outside the state. It will probably be necessary to call certain of these to cooperate in the project. Work is slowly progressing on the first compilation of titles. The cooperation of the libraries and other institutions who will eventually be asked to list their holdings is essential to the completion of this valuable research project.

THE NEXT STEP

There may be a few obscurities in the two paragraphs below; but they tell a story of library service which is worth putting together here. They are taken from various releases of the West Virginia Library Commission.

Miss Doris Wood, Field Worker, Monroe County Library, to Miss Dora Ruth Parks, Executive Secretary of the Commission; December 5, 1947:

"Putting 'Demonstration' on that bookmobile was the best thing we have done yet. That got the idea across better than anything I could ever say. People are now saying--What is the next step?"

Miss Wood to Miss Parks, December 19, 1947.

"I finally got over (to Ronceverte) and found Mrs. Black who wrote to you from there... I said I'd do whatever I could. Mrs. Black is very nice; I talked about what they could get from the Library Commission and what I thought about their joining a county system when one was set up, etc."

Miss Parks to Miss Wood, January 6, 1948:

"Five hundred books are being mailed today to Mrs. Black for the Ronceverte Library. We have included a lot of the old favorites in fiction and a rather generous supply of books on crafts, music, history, homemaking, and other materials which provide the "know how" in several fields. I hope you will visit that library when you can, even though your schedule is full in Monroe County. I expect the people who are sponsoring the reading room will want some professional help."

NEWS OF FEDERAL RELATIONS

The A.L.A. Relations office had only 3 days notice so that they might prepare for the hearings on the Library Demonstration Bill, December 9. Postal cards were sent from Morgantown on December 7 asking individuals to wire the House Subcommittee on Education but unfortunately many of them did not reach their destination until too late to be of use. However, Mr. Howard reports that the hearings went well and he feels that the Committee will recommend that the bill be passed. He said there was a "softening" on the part of some members of the Committee and at least on complete change of mind. We still need to continue contacting individual congressmen to make sure that they vote for the bill as they have already pledged. To date, Senator Revercomb is the only one of the congressmen from whom we have not received a definite commitment.

The new Federal Coordinator for West Virginia will be Mr. Charles Knapp, newly appointed librarian of West Virginia Wesleyan College.

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The Morgantown Post on Saturday, January 17, carried a full-column editorial on the Waitman Barbe Library, which is the public library in that city. After a lengthy and informative discussion of the history and present situation of the collection, the article suggested that some civic group take on the responsibility of raising privately enough money to match the municipal appropriation.

Mrs. Betty Burnside, Librarian of the Barbe Library, has made good use of her resources. With a per capita income of 18 cents she has over 25% of the population registered and circulates 2.6 volumes per capita for the entire city. Only Martinsburg, with 99 cents per capita, and Richwood, with 86 cents, exceed this ratio among city and town libraries listed by the Library Commission.

NEWS OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES

The A.L.A. Relations office had only 3 days notice so that they might prepare for the hearings on the Library Demonstration Bill. Executive Board meeting were sent from Washington on December 7 asking Executive Board members to write the House Subcommittee on Education. But unfortunately many of them did not reach their destination until too late to be of use. However, Mr. Howard reports that the hearings were well and he feels that the committee will recommend that the bill be passed. He said there was a "audience" on the part of some members of the committee and a lack of complete change of mind. We still need to continue contacting individual congressmen to make sure that they vote for the bill as they have already pledged. To date, Secretary Dorothy is the only one of the committee from whom we have not received a definite commitment.

The new Federal Coordinator for West Virginia will be Mr. Charles Kinney, newly appointed librarian of West Virginia Wesleyan College.

The Morgantown Post of January 17, carried a full-column editorial on the Wadsworth Public Library, which is the public library in that city. After a lengthy and informative discussion of the history and present situation of the library, the article suggested that the city group take on the responsibility of making privately enough money to match the municipal appropriation.

Mrs. Betty Fussing, librarian of the Berea Library, has made use of her resources. With a population of 16 counties and over 50% of the population unlisted and straggling 5.6 volumes per week in the entire city, only [illegible] hours, with no cards per capita, and [illegible] with no cards, around this [illegible] city and [illegible]

THE NEWS STORY

There may be a few occurrences in the paragraphs below, but they are a story of library service which [illegible] with putting Gaspipher here. They [illegible] when first welcome reference of the West Virginia Library Commission.

"Our Doris Wood, Field Worker, [illegible] County Library, to Miss Dora [illegible], Executive Secretary of [illegible] Commission, December 8, 1947:

"Getting "concentration" on that [illegible] was the most thing we [illegible] yet. That got the idea [illegible] better than anything I could [illegible]. People are now saying [illegible] the book shop."

[illegible] Wood to Miss Dora, December [illegible], 1947.

"Finally got over (to Jacksonville [illegible]) Black who wrote to [illegible] there... I said I'd do what [illegible] could. Mrs. Black is very [illegible] called about what they could [illegible] the library cooperation and [illegible] about their joining a [illegible] when one was set up.

[illegible] Parks to Miss Wood, January [illegible]

"[illegible] bound books are being [illegible] to Mrs. Black for the [illegible] library. We have included [illegible] the old favorites in fiction [illegible] generous supply of books [illegible], music, history, biography, [illegible] material which provide the [illegible] in several fields. I hope [illegible] that this library when you [illegible] through your schools is [illegible] County. I expect the [illegible] are announcing the reading [illegible] week [illegible] Wednesday.

THE CHARLESTON MEETINGS

Those who attended the annual meeting of the West Virginia Library Association in Charleston in October had a chance to see the new demonstration bookmobile of the Library Commission's which was on display. Commission members met in Charleston at the same time as the Association and the state organization of the Friends of the Library.

The Friends meeting was the first one held by that organization for several years. Highlights of the meeting were the adoption of a new constitution; the formal adoption of the name, Friends of the Library, instead of the older Better Library Movement; and the election of officers for the coming year. Dr. J. F. Marsh of Athens was elected president, Mrs. R. I. Roudebush of Huntington vice-president, Mrs. Earl Rabel of St. Marys treasurer and Miss Mildred Fiser of Huntington secretary.

The thirty-third annual meeting of the West Virginia Library Association was exceptionally well attended. A brief summary of the meeting is given for the benefit of those who were unable to attend.

Several changes in the Constitution were adopted. The vice-president is now the president-elect. This is in keeping with procedures of the American Library Association.

The immediate past president shall be the A.L.A. Councilor of the Association.

Annual dues henceforth will be two dollars per year instead of one. The increase in dues is necessary if the Association is to continue its activities.

The following officers were elected for the coming year. President, Mrs. Madalyn M. Bradford of Huntington; Vice-President, Forrest Carhart of Morgantown; Secretary, Charles E. Butler of Charleston and Treasurer, Mrs. Vivian R. Boughter of West Liberty.

The Association voted to affiliate with the Middle Atlantic Regional Library Association in the event that a regional division is contemplated by the A.L.A.

The Association voted to continue the publication of West Virginia Libraries. This bulletin was begun during the past year as an experiment on the part of the Executive Board. Plans for a staff and objectives were to be left up to the Executive Board.

Mr. Hugh Behymer presented a petition to the Executive Board asking that the college librarians of the state be granted permission to organize as a section of the West Virginia Library Association. Upon the approval of the Board, the petition was presented to the membership and permission was voted. This is the first sectional division of the Association. Sections for public librarians and school librarians are in process of being organized.

Invitations were extended to the Association from Huntington and from Bethany for next year's meeting.

The highlight of the afternoon meeting was an address by Mr. Elmer M. Grieder, Librarian of West Virginia University who spoke on, "Thought and Action in Library Service." A number of people have asked for copies of Mr. Grieder's talk, and it is hoped that they will be available soon.

The highlight of the entire convention was the dinner meeting at the Ruffner Hotel on Saturday night at which Mr. Paul Howard, Federal Relations Director of the American Library Association spoke on the imporance of libraries in national and local affairs. Mr. Howard was introduced by Mrs. Douglas C. Tomkies of Huntington, state president of the AAUW and member of the Library Board of the Huntington Public Library.

Other guests included Mr. R. C. Andrews, Mayor of Charleston, Mr. Douglas C. Tomkies, Mayor of Huntington, Dr. W. W. Trent, State Superintendent of Schools and members of the Library Commission.

VOL. II, NO. I AND LATER ISSUES

West Virginia Libraries begins a new era in its history with this issue. The Executive Board of the WVLA, at its December meeting, appointed an Editor and an Editorial Board to manage the journal. Henceforth it will be published quarterly under the direction of Miss Betty Meek, of the Ohio County Public Library.

Although West Virginia Libraries is the official organ of the WVLA it will not be strictly a professional paper. It is intended for all persons interested in library development in the state. The Library Lookout has been suspended by the West Virginia Library Commission, and news of its activities will be carried in these columns in the future. It is therefore desirable that our quarterly have a wider circulation than the membership of the Association can provide.

It is a particular privilege to welcome contributions from the friends of books and libraries throughout the state. This month we are indebted to Dr. J. Frank Marsh, State President of the Friends of the Library, and Mr. Kyle McCormick, Publisher of the Princeton Observer, and a member of the Library Commission. News of later contributors will be found on page 5 of this issue.

A LIST OF BOOKS FOR LIBRARIANS

Miss Dora Ruth Parks, Executive Secretary of the West Virginia Library Commission, has compiled the following short list of recent studies on various library problems. All can be borrowed from the Commission's office in Morgantown if they are not available locally.

Annual Report of the Librarian of Congress. U. S. Government Printing Office, 1947.

College and University Libraries and Librarianship, An Examination of Their Present Status and Some Proposals for Their Future Development. A.L.A., 1946.

Door, Gerald. Educational Motion Pictures and Libraries. A. L. A., 1942. Good suggestions for schools, public and college libraries.

Manual of Suggestions and Procedures for North Carolina Bookmobile Service. North Carolina Library Commission, 1947. While written for North Carolina's use, this manual has many suggestions useful in all bookmobile service. Sections on requests, registration, and circulation would apply in almost any case.

Schunk, R. J. Pointers for Public Library Building Planners. A.L.A., 1945. Includes material on selling the project, suggestions on moving, remodeling, and equipment information as well as many other subjects.

Singer, Dorothea. Insurance of Libraries. A.L.A., 1946.

Wilson, L. R. and Tauber, M. F. The University Library, Its Organization, Administration, and Functions. University of Chicago Press, 1945.

N E W S A N D N O T E S

HUNTINGTON CLASSIFIES ITS SERVICE

The Library Board of the Huntington Public Library adopted and placed into operation a Classification and Pay Plan in August, the first in the history of that library.

In connection with the plan all employees were graded into three classes, professional, sub-professional and clerical, based upon amount of education and training. The Board plans to work toward a grading of work done to fit in with the classification of staff members so that ultimately clerical people will be doing clerical work and professional persons work of professional grade. At the present time those who are filling positions for which they do not have the proper education are classified as 'acting'.

An increment of five dollars per month for six years is allowed for experience. The number of years experience will be extended later.

Basic salaries for each of the three grades, are as follows: professional $2400; sub-professional $1920, and clerical $1500.

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The West Virginia University Library is opening a new reserve book room in a remodelled building formerly used as a cafeteria. It will seat about 170 students, and is expected to relieve much of the congestion in the main library.

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The Library Commission reports that the Huntington Public and Kanawha County Public Libraries have received substantial budget increases for 1948. Mr. Butler of the latter will have about $30,000 more, according to expectations.

"MR. B"

Hugh Behymer and his building program at Bethany are the subject of an article in the December 15th issue of Library Journal.

Coming to Bethany in 1941 "Mr. B" as the students affectionately call him, began a drastic program of library development by weeding out and discarding. Today, the program which is to give Bethany one of the finest library setups in the state is well beyond the blueprint stage and when completed will provide a library of 200,000 volumes, a recreational reading room, microfilm vaults, a projection room, student carrells, and a listening room where students may go to listen to musical selections.

At present, according to Mr. Behymer, the library is only giving a minimum of service mainly due to budget deficiencies.

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Mr. Budd L. Gambee of the Detroit Public Library has accepted the position of Chief Audio-visual Aids Librarian at the West Virginia University Library. He will take up his duties about March 1.

Mr. Gambee is a graduate of the University of Rochester and has a library science degree from the University of Michigan. He has worked in the Seymour Library, Auburn, N. Y., the Aurora, Illinois, Public Library, and the Technology Division and Fine Arts Department of the Detroit Public Library.

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West Virginia University is looking for a serials cataloguer with library school training and some experience. The position will pay $2940 per year at present.